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Testimony of Sheri Grossman
Bismarck-Mandan Convention & Visitors Bureau
Senate Bill 2347
February 5, 2025

Chairperson Larson and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

My name is Sheri Grossman, and I am the CEO for the Bismarck-Mandan Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2347, which proposes the authorization of historic horse race wagering in North Dakota. While proponents argue that this bill will benefit the equine industry, it raises serious concerns about the expansion of gaming in our state without the same restrictions and safeguards imposed on charitable gaming organizations.

We frequently hear from legislators about concerns regarding gaming expansion and the need to ensure that any growth in charitable gaming is tightly regulated. This bill seems to contradict those principles by significantly expanding gaming operations without the same oversight and requirements that charitable gaming organizations must follow

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for a do not pass on Senate Bill 2347. This bill as currently introduced represents an unchecked expansion of gaming in North Dakota, prioritizes out-of-state interests over local communities, and diverts potential funding away from charitable organizations that have long supported our state in communities throughout North Dakota. Instead of opening the door to a new form of gambling, we should continue ensuring that gaming activities in North Dakota remain responsibly managed and beneficial to our residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

